

THE "EYE"

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2002

PARTIES CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR POLICE AND NEIGHBORHOODS

Summertime brings out the best and worst in people. The best occurs when friends and family come over to celebrate the great weather and good times, and the worst happening when parties get out of hand, with the music turned up too loud, and people coming and going late at night with bottles and cans being tossed about the lawns.

The Lincoln Police Department responded to 20,958 Disturbance calls and 1,687 Wild Party calls in 2001. When the Police arrive at the scene of a party, contact is made with the person responsible for the residence or apartment and give that person the opportunity to take care of the problem. If that doesn't work, the Police end the party and ask all occupants not living at the address to leave. Names are taken down with the warning that if the Police are

called back, all occupants may be arrested and cited. A majority of the party calls taken are handled quietly and problems are resolved. There are some cases where there is clearly an "out of control" party and enforcement action is immediately taken. Tickets are issued and in extreme cases people are taken to jail. A problem does arise in some cases where there is a "disturbance" or "party" but there is no victim willing to come forward to be a witness when a ticket needs to be issued. The more witnesses, the better chance of a successful prosecution. Sometimes there is a house or apartment that has parties/disturbances on a frequent basis. A good suggestion to solve this problem is to first talk with the occupants of that residence and explain the problem. If that doesn't

work, talk with the landlord or owner of the property to see if they can talk with the occupants. If all options have failed, call the Police and explain the situation. If this residence is having an on-going problem, Officers can initiate what is called a "Problem Oriented Policing" project. What this means is that the residence will be the focus of enforcement action whenever the police is notified to investigate a party or disturbance call. At a minimum, all calls are documented via an Incident Report to include the names of the occupants. The Police will make all efforts to work the problem to an end. If you have further questions regarding Disturbances or Wild Party calls in your neighborhood, contact the Lincoln Police Department at

SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS!



For over eighteen years Frank and Mildred Klasek volunteered their time and effort to distribute this newsletter, "The Eye", to your Neighborhood Watch groups. Four times a year the Klaseks would obtain the 15,000 copies of the newsletter. They would then sort, label, staple and apply postage to create 2,000 mailing pieces. The 2,000 pieces were then sorted into eighteen different trays, by zip code, to be delivered to the Post Office. As part of the bulk mailing process the Klaseks also had to fill out a Postage Statement Form to assure that the proper amount of postage was paid.

It is estimated that over the course of their volunteer work, the Klaseks saved the City of Lincoln about \$90,000 in work-hours. On April 25, 2002 Frank & Mildred were recognized for their exemplary service to the city. During an Officer and Citizen Award Ceremony the Klaseks received a Citizen's Meritorious Service Award from the Chief of Police, Thomas Casady.

Thank you, Frank and Mildred, for your years of service!

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!

August 6, 2002 will mark the 19th Annual National Night Out.

National Night Out is an event designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships;
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

To participate in National Night Out we encourage you to turn on your exterior house lights and be outside on your porch or front step. Some participants organize activities with their neighbors such as block parties, cookouts, and visits from police officers. Please consider getting together with your neighbors. Make it an opportunity to gather your Neighborhood Watch members.

If you would like a police officer to attend your National Night Out gathering please call the Crime Prevention Group at 441-7261. We will try to schedule an officer to join you. Please give us the time and location of your gathering. Call by July 26th so we have time to make a schedule.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

During 2001, Police Officers responded to 3,854 incidents involving domestic violence which ranged from out-of-control juveniles to spouse arguments. In extreme cases where domestic assault occurs, individuals were taken to jail. Most cases required the police to either mentor the juvenile or mediate the spousal disagreements. The main issue of most incidents was making peace during the conflict.

Most domestic incidents can be handled without Police intervention with a little effort, thought and some patience. In cases involving juveniles, it is very difficult to impress upon them their ability to compromise and work around problem issues. When dealing with spouses, the best way to make peace is to manage the situation. Conflict produces stress, hurts loved ones and friends and causes injury (in extreme cases). We can't always avoid conflict, but we can learn to manage it. By doing so, we can learn from past mistakes and use that knowledge to improve our lives.

What skills are needed to manage personal conflict?

1- A person must understand their own feelings about conflict. Recognize the "triggers," words or actions that immediately provoke an emotional response like anger. It could be a facial expression, a tone of voice, a pointing finger, or a certain phrase. Once these "triggers" are identified, one can better control your emotions.

2- Be a good, active listener. Go beyond hearing just words and try to understand what the other person is saying. Listen carefully, instead of thinking about what you are going to say next. Active listening requires concentration and body language that says you are paying attention.

3- Generate options for resolving the conflict. Many people can think of only two ways to manage conflict: fighting or avoiding the problem. Instead, take a step back, get the facts straight, brainstorm all ideas that might help resolve the argument, and discuss the pros, cons, and consequences.

4- State your needs and define the problem; talk about the issues without insulting or blaming the other person. Don't state your position; that's simply your solution to the problem. Compare what is said (position) with what is really meant (needs). Together, discuss various ways of meeting needs or solving the problem. Be flexible and open-minded.

5- Decide who will be responsible for specific actions after reaching an agreement on a plan. If you can't work it out, then get help, i.e., step away from one another for a moment and try mediation. Remember, mediators do not make decisions for people, they help people make their own decisions. In mediation sessions, a neutral third person [detached and unbiased] helps parties in conflict resolve their problems. Mediators may be professionals or volunteers who have undergone intensive training. They do not dictate a settlement but will encourage dialog, provide guidance, and help the parties define areas of agreement and disagreement. Mediation sessions are confidential.

6- Try arbitration where a neutral third party acts as a judge. Disputing parties can agree on an arbitrator who then hears evidence from all sides, asks questions, and hands down a decision. Usually, the arbitrator's decision is final. Some arbitration programs use a panel of arbitrators who decide the outcome of a complaint by majority vote.

The main goal in managing conflict is to move away from

confrontation and towards agreement. Look at your response(s) to conflict. If your style isn't working, you're left with raging emotions which lead to more problems. One must try to change.

Remember the following communication tips:

- (1) Choose a convenient time
- (2) Plan ahead
- (3) Talk directly
- (4) Don't blame or name-call
- (5) Give information
- (6) Listen
- (7) Show that you are listening
- (8) Talk it through
- (9) Work on a solution
- (10) Follow through

[Source: The National Crime Prevention Council]

Where can you find help if all else fails? Start with your local clergy/church. There are many agencies offered through the city and state as well as schools, colleges and universities. The following list includes just some resources which can be found in the blue pages of the Alltel telephone book under the Human Services Directory:

Rape Spouse Abuse Crisis-	476-2110
LPD Victim / Witness-	441-7181
Catholic Social Services -	489-1834
Cedars-	434-5437
Family Service..	441-7949
Lutheran Family Services-	489-7744
Samaritan Counseling Center	483-5117
University Nebraska Counseling and School Psychology	
Clinic-	472-1152
Family Resource Center-	472-5035
Mediation Center -	441-5740

IS TRAFFIC BOGGING YOU DOWN?

Road construction and closings have contributed to increased traffic congestion and delays. These problems have also contributed to increased frustration on the part of motorists. There are some things to consider while trying to deal with these problems. Stay aware of the locations of road work and closings so that you can avoid them. The City Street Department provides the newspaper with a list of construction and closed sites so you have the opportunity to plan ahead. Leave a little earlier than what you think you might need so you can relax even if you do encounter a detour or congestion. Plan your drive time to limit the amount of stress you may feel. Listen to music that is pleasant and calming to you. Do not become competitive with other drivers. Be gracious—allow other drivers to merge or make lane changes as needed. Show courtesy by signaling your turns and lane changes. Make legal lane changes when turning onto multiple lane roads, do not race to try to beat yellow or red traffic signals, and stop completely at stop signs. Avoid distractions such as talking on cell phones, adjusting the sound system, or having inappropriate interaction with passengers. During these summer months pay extra attention to the increased number of motorcyclists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

It is every driver's responsibility to adhere to our traffic laws. As our city continues to grow we all need to accept the fact that there will be more traffic and more construction to keep pace with that growth.

The Lincoln Police Department is looking for several individuals that have three or more outstanding warrants. Some of these criminals have been “ducking” the law for up to two years. We need your help in bringing all these individuals in to face up to their responsibilities. If you see any of these individuals or have tips on where Law Enforcement might locate them, please call **Crime Stoppers** at **475-3600**.



Anthony J. Labrillo W/M
DOB: 10-28-1976
5ft 11in, 190lbs
Eyes: Brown Hair: Brown
WARRANTS: LPD/LSO
Steal Money or Goods
Hinder/Delay Arrest
Assault
Theft by Deception

Last Known Address:
1437 Mulberry St.



Kerisse D. Stubblefield B/F
DOB: 10-15-1979
5ft 7in, 150lbs
Eyes: Brown Hair: Brown
WARRANTS: LPD/LSO
3 separate warrants for
Suspended Driving
Vandalism
Narcotics/Intent To Deliver

Last Address:
706 S. 46 St.



Mark Sharom Moshiri W/M
DOB: 02-25-1977
5ft 10in, 150lbs
Eyes: Brown Hair: Brown
WARRANTS: LPD/LSO
Disturbing the Peace
DWI
Negligent Driving
Suspended Driving (x2)

Last Known Address:
916 Y St.



INDIVIDUAL(S)
LOCATED TAKEN TO
JAIL OR WARRANTS
WERETAKEN CARE
OF.



Warrants current as of
6-17-2002.

PET SURVIVAL TIPS by Kris Johnson Education Officer Animal Control

During hot weather, your pet's health is potentially at risk. Dogs and cats cannot sweat like people. Excessive exposure to heat can lead to heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Pets who have dark hair/black skin, are older, overweight, have a short muzzle or short nose, or are in generally poor health are at a higher risk. Dogs' and cats' normal body temperatures are 101.5 to 102.2 degrees Fahrenheit. Pet owners need to be aware of the dangers of heat. Animals kept outside need shade and water available all day. Keep in mind that shade changes throughout the day. The water dish needs to be secure or weighted down to prevent your pet from spilling it. It is also helpful to provide a small wading pool so your dog can cool himself off.

Animals in cars: On a hot summer day the inside of a car heats quickly. On an 85 degree day the temperature inside your car, even with the windows slightly opened, will reach 102 degrees in 10 minutes. In 30 minutes the temperature rises to 120 degrees. It is best to leave your dog at home during these high temperature and humid days. Also, do not put dogs in pickup truck beds. The bed floor can be very hot and may burn the dog's paws.

On hot days it is recommended to walk your dog in the early morning or evening hours. When walking your dog avoid areas that have been treated with insecticides or other chemicals. Some chemicals can make your dog sick or even die. Also, be alert for coolant leaking from your vehicle. Animals are attracted to the sweet taste and even a small amount can be deadly. If you think your pet needs help contact your veterinarian immediately. Lincoln has a 24 hour Vet Emergency Services number in case you can not reach your veterinarian. That number is 473-2832. The ASPCA also has a 24 hour Emergency Veterinarian Poison Hotline: 1-888-426-4435, or on-line at www.napcc.aspc.org.

The week of July 4th is one of the busiest times of the year for Animal Control. Booms and crackles of fireworks can be very disturbing to many pets. Animal Control receives numerous calls about lost pets as a result of their being confused, disoriented, or exhausted. The continuous noise often drives an animal to break its leash, jump a fence, or even crash through a window in an effort to escape the noise. Once loose, the animal sometimes keeps running as the noise continues everywhere it goes. Help prevent this heartache by keeping pets inside. Close doggie doors so pets cannot get out when in a panic. Shut windows, close blinds, leave on a radio or TV, and provide comfort items like toys, treats, and old favorite items. You may need to contact your vet to obtain anti-anxiety medication to help your pet get through this holiday. Be sure your pet is wearing their collar with current license and ID tags. Currently licensed animals wearing their tags may be delivered back home to the owner or the owner's veterinarian if they are injured and the vet's office is open.

The "EYE" Neighborhood Watch

LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY SERVICES UNIT
CRIME PREVENTION
575 S. 10 ST.
LINCOLN NE, 68508

Return Service Requested

CAPTAIN'S CORNER BY CAPT STEVE IMES/NW TEAM



January 1999 saw a revision in the structure of the Lincoln Police Department. As a result, the Northwest Team was established. This team encompasses Air Park, Belmont, Arnold Heights, the Highlands, W. Cornhusker and W. "O" Street with a staff under my direction to include six sergeants, 31 commissioned officers and one public service officer. Team members responded to over 25,000 calls for service in 2001. In order to better serve the citizens of NW

Lincoln, a new police substation was opened in the Arnold Heights neighborhood. We are currently looking at adding another substation in the area of 27th and Superior Streets to assist officers in this rapidly growing area of the city. Team officers have made a concerted effort to respond to problems brought to their attention by neighborhood citizens. Traffic problems and wild parties continue to lead the list. Officers have instituted several Problem Oriented Policing Projects and aggressively seek solutions to decrease these concerns. Citizen involvement is very important to the success of the Lincoln Police Department and all of the on-going Policing Projects. Frequently we are called by observant citizens from all parts of the city regarding suspicious activity. These calls have resulted in arrests, recovery of stolen property, interruption of crimes in progress or helping someone in distress. A good example of this happened recently when we received a call at 12:30 am from a lady in Northwest Lincoln who was on her deck and observed a suspicious vehicle. Officers responded and arrested an 18 year old female who had just burglarized a home.

The willingness of citizens to become involved in Neighborhood Watch, Neighborhood Associations, and Business Watch, make Lincoln a great place to live. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact me at 441-6555.

UPCOMING TEAM FORUM DATES



August 13th: *Southwest Team* Forum meets at 7 pm
at the Bess D. Walt Library, 6701 S.14.

August 22nd: *Northeast Team* Forum meets at 7pm
at the Anderson Library, 3635 Touzalin

September 16th: *Southeast Team* Forum meets at 7pm
at the Bryan Plaza, 1600 S. 48th.

October 1st: *Center Team* Forum meets at 7pm at the
LPD Center Team Station, 27th &
Holdrege Streets.

October 2nd: *Northwest Team* Forum meets at 7pm
at the Loren C. Eiseley Library
1530 Superior Ave.